"While a powerful goal of DonorsChoose is to help students gain the resources they need to learn, another key goal is to empower citizens to have a positive, immediate and tangible impact on our public schools," said Michael Brader-Araje, chair of the DonorsChoose N.C. board. Brader-Araje led the effort to bring the program to North Carolina and also serves on the DonorsChoose National Board of Directors.

The Michael and Laura Brader-Araje Foundation has contributed \$100,000 to help fund the North Carolina expansion and a number of other donors are also paving the way for DonorsChoose NC. Wachovia Corp., Progress Energy, RBC Centura, Kellogg Foundation and the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation collectively have donated more than \$200,000.

DonorsChoose NC board members include former governors James Hunt, James Holshouser and James Martin. Other North Carolina board members include Erskine Bowles, U.S. Senate candidate; Marshall Brain, founder, How Stuff Works; J.B. Buxton, senior education advisor to Gov. Easley; Joseph Crocker, senior vice president, Wachovia Bank; Deborah Hylton, partner, Womble Carlyle Sandridge and Rice; Barbara Kelley, former chairperson, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards; Howard Lee, chairman, N.C. State Board of Education; Joan Lipsitz; senior fellow, MDC; Kay Moore, dean, N.C. State University School of Education and Joan Siefert-Rose, general manager, WUNC radio.

For more information on DonorsChoose or to find out how you can participate in the program, visit www.donorschoose.org or contact the North Carolina office at 919-806-4249.

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